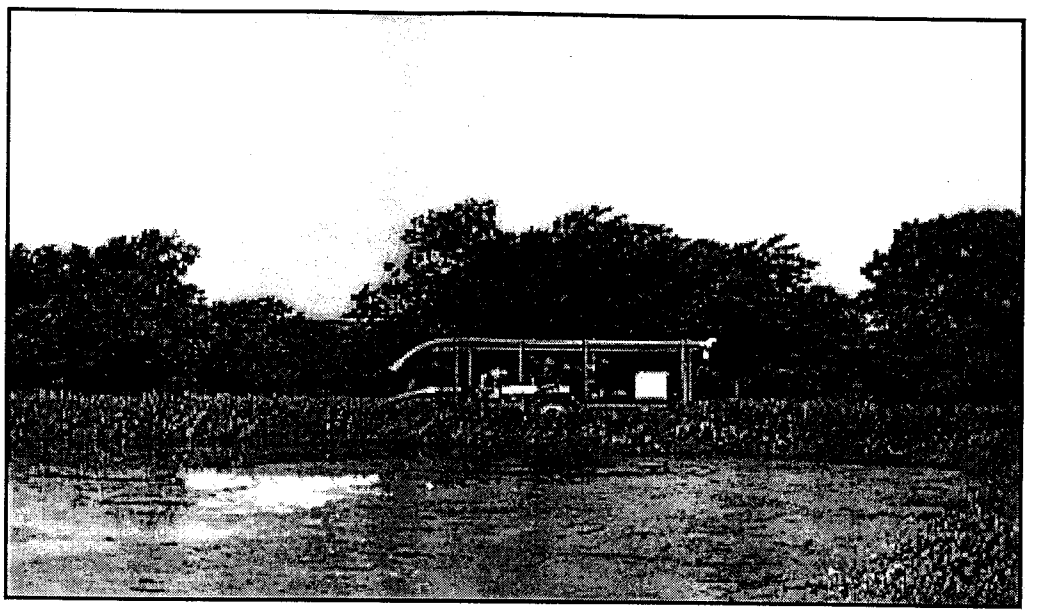
WASTE STORAGE POND OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

Oklahoma Job Sheet - ENG-OK-4

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
Stillwater, Oklahoma



Regularly scheduled pumping is a critical part of the operation of a waste storage pond.

Operation:

1. This structure is designed for _____ days storage capacity.

2. Prevent discharge from the waste storage pond by applying accumulated waste water to the land. Begin pumping when or before the water level reaches the top of the pump down post. Water levels in excess of the top of the pump down post violate the NPDES requirements. Pumping should begin as soon as reasonably possible when the water level exceeds the top of the pump down post. Continue pumping until the waste storage pond is completely emptied. Waste should not be spread within 24 hours of predicted rain unless it can be incorporated at the time of application. The maximum required storage period normally occurs during the winter months. It is important that the waste storage pond be empty at the beginning of the winter storage period (November 1). Ideally, waste water should be applied when plant utilization is occurring. Conversely, periods with a high probability of surface runoff (mid April through June) should be avoided when possible. This creates two general windows of opportunity for applying waste water, mid March to mid April and July through October. Timing of waste water application based on the producer's judgement of current weather and soil conditions will be required to further reduce the potential for surface and groundwater pollution.

3. Agitation prior to pumping may be necessary to suspend the solids to be removed. The addition of outside dilution water may also aid in the pumping process.

4. Testing the waste for nutrient content to more accurately determine land application rates is recommended.

Assistance with waste storage pond operation and maintenance is available from local Natural Resources Conservation Service offices. Assistance is available without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, marital status or handicap.

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5. With proper maintenance and regularly scheduled removal of waste, the life of a waste storage pond can be extended several years.

Maintenance:

1. Maintain adequate vegetative cover on the embankment to prevent erosion. Remove all woody vegetation.

2. Maintain the fence around the waste storage pond to prevent humans and livestock from falling into the pond.

3. Inspect and maintain all pipes, chutes, gutters, and collection boxes as needed. Clean out frequently to remove deposits of manure, soil and gravel.

4. Inspect the embankment regularly and repair any leaks, slope failures, excessive embankment settlement, eroded banks and holes made by burrowing animals.

Waste Storage Pond Data

Producers Name _____ Date _____

Top of Settled Dike Elev._____Ft.
Top width of Dike _____Ft.
Top Dimensions (Inside Dike):
Length _____Ft.
Width _____Ft.
Bottom Elevation _____Ft.
Bottom Dimensions: Length _____Ft.
Width _____Ft.

Emergency Spillway
Elevation _____Ft.
Width _____Ft.

Operating Range
Volume _____Cu Ft.
_____Gal.